

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following Abstract to the specification:

The aim of the invention is to permit the automatic identification of access rights to protected areas in networks, in particular on the Internet. This is achieved by a method for automatically identifying the access rights to protected areas in a first network using a unique connection identifier of a second network, in particular in the interconnection of networks that constitutes the Internet. According to the invention: a unique identifier of the first network is dynamically or statically assigned to a terminal, during or prior to the latter's connection to the first network; a combination of at least the unique connection identifier of the second network and the unique identifier of the first network, said combination being stored in an authentication unit, is polled when the terminal requests access to the protected area, in order to determine the unique connection identifier of the second network using the unique identifier of the first network; and the existence of access rights to the protected area for the unique connection identifier of the second network is then verified.